

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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GERONIMO JOURDAIN,

Plaintiff,

-against-

SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION
LOCAL 1199 (UNITED HEALTHCARE WORKERS
EAST), NEW YORK PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL,

Defendants.
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**ORDER REGULATING
PROCEEDINGS**

09 Civ. 1942 (AKH)

ALVIN K. HELLERSTEIN, U.S.D.J.:

NOTICE TO PRO SE LITIGANT

On March 10, 2010, Defendant Service Employees International Union Local 1199 moved to dismiss under Rule 12(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or, in the alternative, for summary judgment under Rule 56. This means that Defendant has asked the Court to decide the case without a trial, based on the written materials that it has submitted. Since Defendant has moved for summary judgment under Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the claims asserted in the complaint may be dismissed without a trial if Plaintiff does not respond to this motion by filing sworn affidavits or other papers as required by Rule 56(e). An affidavit is a sworn statement of fact based on personal knowledge that would be admissible in evidence at trial. The full text of Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is attached.

In short, Rule 56 provides that Plaintiff, in opposing Defendant's motion, may not simply rely on the allegations in the complaint. Rather, Plaintiff must submit evidence,

such as witness statements or documents, countering the facts asserted by Defendant and raising issues of fact for trial. Any witness statements must be in the form of affidavits. Plaintiff may submit his own affidavit and/or the affidavits of others. Plaintiff may submit affidavits that were prepared specifically in response to Defendant's motion.

If Plaintiff does not respond to the motion on time with affidavits or documentary evidence contradicting the facts asserted by Defendant, the Court may accept Defendant's factual assertions as true. Judgment may then be entered in Defendant's favor without a trial.

Plaintiff may direct questions to the Pro Se Office.

Plaintiff shall file his opposition to Defendant's motion by Friday, April 23, 2010.

Defendant shall file its reply by Friday, May 7, 2010.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: April 1, 2010
New York, New York

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alvin K. Hellerstein", written over a horizontal line.

ALVIN K. HELLERSTEIN
United States District Judge

Rule 56. Summary Judgment

(a) By a Claiming Party. A party claiming relief may move, with or without supporting affidavits, for summary judgment on all or part of the claim.

(b) By a Defending Party. A party against whom relief is sought may move, with or without supporting affidavits, for summary judgment on all or part of the claim.

(c) Time for a Motion, Response, and Reply; Proceedings.

(1) These times apply unless a different time is set by local rule or the court orders otherwise:

(A) a party may move for summary judgment at any time until 30 days after the close of all discovery;

(B) a party opposing the motion must file a response within 21 days after the motion is served or a responsive pleading is due, whichever is later; and

(C) the movant may file a reply within 14 days after the response is served.

(2) The judgment sought should be rendered if the pleadings, the discovery and disclosure materials on file, and any affidavits show that there is no genuine issue as to any material fact and that the movant is entitled to judgment as a matter of law.

(d) Case Not Fully Adjudicated on the Motion.

(1) Establishing Facts. If summary judgment is not rendered on the whole action, the court should, to the extent practicable, determine what material facts are not genuinely at issue. The court should so determine by examining the pleadings and evidence before it and by interrogating the attorneys. It should then issue an order specifying what facts--including items of damages or other relief--are not genuinely at issue. The facts so specified must be treated as established in the action.

(2) Establishing Liability. An interlocutory summary judgment may be rendered on liability alone, even if there is a genuine issue on the amount of damages.

(e) Affidavits; Further Testimony.

(1) In General. A supporting or opposing affidavit must be made on personal knowledge, set out facts that would be admissible in evidence, and show that the affiant is competent to testify on the matters stated. If a paper or part of a paper

is referred to in an affidavit, a sworn or certified copy must be attached to or served with the affidavit. The court may permit an affidavit to be supplemented or opposed by depositions, answers to interrogatories, or additional affidavits.

(2) Opposing Party's Obligation to Respond. When a motion for summary judgment is properly made and supported, an opposing party may not rely merely on allegations or denials in its own pleading; rather, its response must--by affidavits or as otherwise provided in this rule--set out specific facts showing a genuine issue for trial. If the opposing party does not so respond, summary judgment should, if appropriate, be entered against that party.

(f) When Affidavits Are Unavailable. If a party opposing the motion shows by affidavit that, for specified reasons, it cannot present facts essential to justify its opposition, the court may:

(1) deny the motion;

(2) order a continuance to enable affidavits to be obtained, depositions to be taken, or other discovery to be undertaken; or

(3) issue any other just order.

(g) Affidavit Submitted in Bad Faith. If satisfied that an affidavit under this rule is submitted in bad faith or solely for delay, the court must order the submitting party to pay the other party the reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, it incurred as a result. An offending party or attorney may also be held in contempt.